

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. J. RES. 81

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to control spending.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 30, 2008

Mr. CAMPBELL of California (for himself, Mr. HENSARLING, Mrs. MUSGRAVE, Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin, Mr. BRADY of Texas, Mrs. BACHMANN, Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey, Mrs. CUBIN, Mr. FEENEY, Mr. KING of Iowa, Mr. SALI, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. FLAKE, Mr. WESTMORELAND, Mr. BROWN of Georgia, Mr. PENCE, Mr. GINGREY, Mrs. BLACKBURN, Mr. JORDAN of Ohio, Mr. HERGER, Mr. FRANKS of Arizona, Mr. McCAUL of Texas, Mr. GOHMERT, Mr. CONAWAY, Mr. SHADEGG, Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina, Mr. MILLER of Florida, Mr. MARCHANT, Mr. GOODE, Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland, Ms. FOXX, Mr. BISHOP of Utah, Mr. SHIMKUS, Mr. FORBES, and Mrs. MYRICK) introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States to control spending.

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled*
3 *(two-thirds of each House concurring therein), That the fol-*
4 *lowing article is proposed as an amendment to the Con-*
5 *stitution of the United States, which shall be valid to all*
6 *intents and purposes as part of the Constitution when*

1 ratified by the legislatures of three-fourths of the several
2 States within seven years after the date of its submission
3 for ratification:

4 “ARTICLE —

5 “SECTION 1. Total outlays for any fiscal year shall
6 not exceed an amount that would cause total outlays to
7 have increased by a rate that exceeds growth in the United
8 States economy over the period since 2007, unless two-
9 thirds of the whole number of each House of Congress
10 shall provide by law for a specific increase of outlays above
11 this amount by a roll call vote.

12 “SECTION 2. Prior to each fiscal year, the President
13 shall transmit to the Congress a proposed budget for the
14 United States Government for that fiscal year, and for all
15 other fiscal years covered by the President’s budget, in
16 which total outlays do not exceed the outlays from the pre-
17 vious year after taking into account an increase to reflect
18 the average growth in the United States economy over the
19 period since 2007.

20 “SECTION 3. The Congress may waive the provisions
21 of this article for any fiscal year in which a declaration
22 of war is in effect.

23 “SECTION 4. The Congress shall enforce and imple-
24 ment this article by appropriate legislation, which may rely
25 on estimates.

1 “SECTION 5. Total outlays shall include all outlays
2 of the United States Government, except for those for re-
3 payment of debt principal.

4 “SECTION 6. This article shall take effect beginning
5 the second fiscal year after its ratification.”.

